

## Contributed Articles on the Proposed Bond Issue

### Road Bond Issue

As the editor of the Punta Gorda Herald has so kindly offered space in its columns for the citizen who may wish to express his views on the approaching bond issue election for good roads, I for one accept the invitation, fully realizing that no one person can comprehend all the facts to be considered in a bond issue of this nature and magnitude in the short space of time that most of us have to devote to such subjects, therefore the object of this article is not to instruct as much as to provoke replies from those who are better instructed than the writer.

First, we must admit that good roads are a great and necessary asset to the building up of any country and that they enhance the value of the lands contiguous to it.

Second, that bonding has become the most efficient and popular means of securing the funds.

Third, it will revive business by giving employment to many who may now be unemployed and help to connect a state highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Fourth, it will bring a large number of tourists, through Punta Gorda and Charlotte county that otherwise would never pass this way.

Admitting the above facts, the next

question to be considered is its cost and are we able to finance it and meet other obligations we now have. Let us first consider what we now have in the way of taxes for the various districts of the county. For the Punta Gorda district we are assessed for the year 1922: state 10 1/2 mills, county 29 mills, sub-school 3 mills, Charlotte Harbor road and bridge 17 mills, Punta Gorda road 8 mills, making a total of 67 1/2 mills, besides the Punta Gorda drainage, which is a graduated tax, the lands nearest the canal paying the heaviest assessment. Punta Gorda drainage is assessed this year at \$1,056.50, which is additional to the total above mentioned.

The totals of the other districts are as follows: Charlotte Harbor, 65 mills; McCall, 73 mills; Belmont, 3 northern tiers of sections, 55 mills, the three southern tiers 50 mills, which is on account of the sub-district of the Cleveland school embracing only the northern half of the Belmont township.

The entire present indebtedness of the county is approximately \$150,000.

Another important feature to be considered is the large amount of wild lands, most of which are non-productive, and that if assessed too heavily owners cannot pay the taxes and the lands will be returned to the state and the burdens increased the succeeding years by those who are able and willing to meet their obligations. There are already many tracts of land both in the road and drainage districts that have been sold to the state for non-payment of taxes.

The laborer also, whether he owns a foot of real estate or not, is the one on whom the burden falls the heaviest, for the man who owns a store must increase his rents to meet the increase of his taxes and the merchant who rents the store must raise the prices on his goods to meet the increase of his rents. But the laborer, who has nothing but his wages to raise, which he is unable to do, must therefore pay the bill.

For these and other reasons, I shall think twice before casting my ballot for another bond issue in a county whose total valuation is a little less than two million dollars or strictly speaking \$1,951,734.—G. W. GATEWOOD.

### Pay Your Poll Tax, if You'd Vote

If a representative expression of the voters is to be had in the bonding election on February 20th, it is absolutely necessary for all who are subject to poll tax to pay same quickly in order to be qualified.

Receipts for poll taxes for the years 1921 and 1922 will be required and the election, coming early in the year, as it does, many voters are liable to overlook this requirement, with the result that the bonds will be carried or lost by a small vote. Every voter, whether favoring the bonds or not, should pay his poll tax at once and be qualified to participate in the election. Poll taxes must be paid on or before January 13th to entitle holder of the receipt to vote on February 20th.

It is highly important that a representative expression on the proposed bond issue be had, for bonds carried in an election where only a small vote is polled will not sell to as good advantage as bonds carried in an election in which a large majority of the voters participate. Even those who are opposed to the bond issue will probably be sufficiently interested to wish to administer a decisive

defeat. Certainly no one should sleep on his rights and have regrets afterwards. Let all qualify and vote. It being unusual for an election to be held so early in the year is where there's danger of many, who are accustomed to defer until later the payment of property taxes, may overlook paying their 1922 poll tax in time to qualify.

This is an important proposition—the proposed bond issue should be given thoughtful consideration—it should be studied from its every angle.

Can we afford to bond further or can we afford not to bond; will we get what we want or will we not get it; wherein does Charlotte county's best interests lie and the interests of her individual supporting citizens; and will progress and prosperity follow the issuance of the bonds and expenditure of the proceeds.

The issuance of bonds is proposed with a view to furthering the best interests of the county and promoting progress and prosperity; and it seems to many to be the only way to obtain certain desired road improvements. But the final verdict on the proposition rests in the hands of the voters, who should qualify and inform themselves and be prepared to vote intelligently.

Remember, to qualify for this election you must have paid your poll tax (if subject) for the years 1921 and 1922 and be prepared to produce receipts for same; and only fifteen days remain in which you may pay and be qualified.—A. C. J.

## PUNCHETTES

By Rev. M. A. Matthews, D.D., L.L.D.

### DEMOCRATIC CHURCH

You are frequently presented with the statement that the church is composed of classes. There was never a greater falsehood uttered. The most democratic institution on earth is the church.

The Bible says that we are all included under sin. There isn't any man who is not classified as a sinner. Some may lie about it and say they are not sinners and some may lie about it and say there is no such thing as sin. But both of those statements are infallible proofs of the existence of sin and of the fact that we are all included under sin. That is democratic.

Those who are saved are saved by Christ; therefore all Christians, regardless of their name, are sinners saved by grace and all Christians are under grace. That is democratic.

There is only one qualification for joining the church; namely, belief in Christ.

The rich and the poor, the high and the low, the learned and the ignorant, the wise and the foolish, the good and the bad, the young and the old, the pretty and the ugly, are all members of the church.

Christ is the Savior of all. And we meet in the common place to worship Jesus Christ. There is a common worship, and a common prayer.

The man in overalls, and the man in broadcloth, the woman in satin and the scrub woman in her apron, can sit down in the same pew, sing the same hymn, repeat the same prayer and worship the same Christ who died to save all.

The most democratic institution on earth is the Church of Jesus Christ.

Every fall the golden plover of the Pacific makes a 2,000-mile non-stop flight from Alaska to Hawaii over a stretch of ocean which affords no haven for rest in case of storm.

In most Latin-American countries cemeteries are purely secular institutions under municipal control, open to the use of all, regardless of religious belief or disbelief.

To anybody at equal distance from the sun and earth the sun would be 1,500,000,000 times as bright as the earth.

The date of Arbor Day varies in different states from February to May, due largely to climatic conditions.

India ink is made from burned camphor.

### CHIEF OF AMERICAN LEGION



Col. Alvin W. Owsley of Beaumont, Tex., who was elected commander-in-chief of the American Legion at the meeting in New Orleans a short time ago.

### MRS. J. E. GRUNWELL DIES

#### Sad Ending of a Very Happy Christmas Day

A sad and most unexpected death occurred on Christmas night, when Mrs. Jane E. Grunwell, mother of Dr. A. G. Grunwell, passed away about 10 p. m.

After a day of great happiness and pleasure, she became suddenly ill with heart failure, to which she was subject, and, within a few hours the end came. Her son and daughter-in-law and grand-daughter, Helen were at her bedside with Dr. McQueen.

She was the widow of the late Judge A. B. Grunwell of Washington, D. C., and is survived by five children: Mrs. John H. Grunwell of Los Angeles, California; Dr. A. G. Grunwell of Punta Gorda, Fla.; Charles V. Grunwell, of Pasadena, California, and Mrs. Walter C. English and John R. Grunwell of Washington, D. C.

Less than a month ago, Miss Helen Grunwell brought her to Punta Gorda to spend her third winter here, and her loss will be deeply felt.

She was a woman of gentle nature and kindest thought of those about her.

Brief services conducted by the Rev. Dr. Kerns of the Presbyterian church, were held at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Grunwell, after which the body was taken to the train for Washington, D. C., where funeral services will again be held at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. English. Interment will be at the Arlington National cemetery.

Dr. Grunwell and daughter, Helen, accompanied the body north.

### Card of Thanks

Dr. and Mrs. Grunwell and family wish to express their sincere thanks and deep appreciation of the kindness and thoughtfulness and respect shown at the time of their bereavement.

### Death of a Former Visitor

Daniel C. Johnson, age 80, who, up to two years ago, regularly spent his winters here and, while so doing, won the esteem of all who came to know him, died at his home in Clinton, Indiana, on the 13th inst. He was one of the foremost citizens of his town and county, and he had the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens to such an extent that they repeatedly honored him with the highest offices within their gift. Many Punta Gorda people will be grieved to learn of his death.

### Aliens Arrested

Of the twenty-one aliens who were smuggled in from Cuba and landed at Sanibel last week, two, George Kris and Anton Richardson, were captured here by Deputy Sheriff Leck Lewis and placed in the jail at Arcadia. This was done in compliance with a telegraphic request to Sheriff Lipscomb from Edward A. Burke, immigration inspector. The two men came here on the run-boat Harris Brothers. Nineteen of the men passed here on the train for Tampa, Saturday morning.

### Singular Accident

An unverified report without details of a singular automobile accident that occurred at Sarasota, Saturday night, has been received here. A car ran into a wagon to which a horse was hitched; the horse, naturally becoming frightened, broke loose and went tearing down the street; meeting another car, it attempted to jump over the headlights, broke through the wind-shield and injured several persons.

### In Mayor's Court

Two cases were tried by Mayor Carleton, Tuesday, and both alleged offenders were fined. John Renfro, charged with having been drunk, was required to pay a fine of \$5.00 and costs. Two cases were docketed against a man named Allen—one for being drunk and the other for insulting a girl. In each, he forfeited a cash bond of \$10.00. Arrests were made by Chief of Police A. C. Caldwell.

### Has Great Power of Flight

The beautiful stormy petrel comes to land only to rest, then flies in at dusk to some bleak coast of the Hebrides, speeding away again in the early dawn. Careless of the wildest storm, the petrel goes to and fro over miles of open sea.

The average American consumes approximately one pound of tea per year.

Quills were used for writing as early as the fifth century.

The land bird with the longest migration route is probably the night hawk, which flies from as far north as the Yukon to Argentina, 7,000 miles away.

## SUNSHINE NURSERY

Brownville, Fla.

CITRUS TREES FOR SALE

Owned by Saxon & Co., Inc.



Hearty appreciation and very best WISHES for a Happy New Year!

R. M. KING



May your cup of cheerfulness in the New Year be filled to overflowing. May it be the best you've ever lived.

## Punta Gorda State Bank

W. L. KOON  
President

CLAY CHADWICK  
Vice-President

W. R. DeLOACH  
Cashier

## Coming to Punta Gorda!

## Plaza Theater

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
January 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th

## Williams Stock Co.

THE SHOW YOU ALL KNOW

Not a moving picture, but a cast of real artists presenting

## "POLLY AND I"

A Comedy Drama in Four Acts.—Clean and Spirited.—An Amalgamation of Laughter and Tears.

## Music, Mirth and Song!

REFINED! SNAPPY! WHOLESOME!

Prices: Adults 50c Children 25c

A Show for Ladies and Gentlemen

## ARCADIA OPERA HOUSE TUES. JAN. 2

— ONE NIGHT ONLY —

## J. A. COBURN'S MINSTRELS

With DAN HOLT The Georgia Cotton Blossom and Thirty - Five Minstrel Entertainers

EDW. C. CLIFFORD Minstrel's Supreme Baritone  
BOYS OF THE HARMONY CLUB With Karl Denton  
—DeVaro and DeCarlo, Black Face Comedy Bar Entertainers.

Prices \$1.00-\$1.50 Plus Tax. Seats Now on Sale.

## Fords, Ford Parts, Gas, Oils, Tires, Tubes



Phone 44

J. S(ervice) Goff Punta Gorda, Fla.

This store is headquarters for all Ford cars, Ford parts, oil, gas, tires, tubes, etc. We carry Michelin tires, Perfection tires, Thermoid tires, Federal tires and tubes to fit all cars, and each tire carries a guarantee. Don't let your car look bad for want of a little attention. We can furnish everything from a cotter pin to fender, and that "S" in our name stands for SERVICE.